SIX NATIONS
POLYTECHNIC

2020 | 2021

ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT 2020|21

WHO WE ARE

Six Nations Polytechnic is a unique Indigenous education organization, recognized by community, government, and institutions of higher learning, as a Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Knowledge.

Established in Canada's most populous First Nation to offer postsecondary and now secondary education and training, SNP currently operates under First Nations jurisdiction in compliance with federal and provincial postsecondary legislation.

SNP has formal partnerships with nine publicly funded Ontario Universities and Colleges and collaborates with five Ontario based Indigenous owned and controlled post-secondary Institutes.

VISION

Our vision is to achieve international distinction for excellence in Indigenous education, Indigenous language revitalization and continuance of Indigenous knowledge.

MISSION

SNP's unique mission is the preservation, application and creation of knowledge specific to Ogwehoweh languages and culture while respectfully interacting with and informing other knowledge systems.

SNP's "two road" epistemology applies in teaching and research that serve the social, cultural and economic needs of our community and society. SNP is committed to the values of Ga'nigǫhi:yo:/Kanikoriio (Respect and the Good Mind) for the benefit of all who share this land. **Established 1993. Registered Charity, 2014**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1 | Increasing engagement of Six Nations people in the cultural, social and economic systems and structures that sustain our existence.

2 | Closing the knowledge gap that exists in society with respect to the history of the country, the experience of Indigenous peoples, the impacts of colonization and trauma, and the outstanding obligations that remain to be addressed (access to lands, resources, cultural and language revitalization, etc.).

3 | Contributing to a sustainable future for all.

ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

The Board has identified values to guide the organization. These are stated in Board policy as Hodinǫhsǫ:nih values of Ga'nigǫhi:yo:/Kanikoriio (Values of the Good Mind). The expectation for all (Board, staff, instructors and students) is to operationalize these values in their respective roles and to conduct themselves accordingly and in compliance with organizational policies.

SNP is committed to the values of Ga'nigǫhi:yo: / Kanikoriio (Respect and the Good Mind) for the benefit of all who share this land.

Hodinohsó:ni'
Values of
Ga'nigǫhí:yo: /Ka'nikonhrí:io

FAIRNESS
(gędęǫhsra') (kentenrónhshera) (odihwagwaíhshyǫ)

SHARING
(degaihwakahsǫ́hsra') (aterihwakhahsiónhshera) (adęnide:sä:)

HONESTY
(odrihwagwaihsǫ́hsra') (aterihwakwarihsióntshera) (gaya'da:denih)

KINDNESS
(adęnidéǫhsra') (ateniteróntshera') (adęnidę:sä:)

CONFIDENTIALITY
(adrihwąhséhdǫhsra') (aterihwahsehtónshera') (gaihwahséhdih)

CONSISTENCY
(oihwadógęhsra') (aterihwatokéntshera') (gaihwadó:gęh)

INTEGRITY
(oya'dawádǫhsra') (atkwenióntshera') (ganihgǫhęwá:nę)

RESPONSIBILITY
(adrihǫdá:tsra) (aterihontátshera) (gaihwayędáhgwih)

RESPONSIVENESS
(adehsrǫníhsǫhsra') (kariwahserakwáhshera') (gaihwasá:gwęh)

COOPERATION
(gayenawáhsra') (kaienawáhshera') (gayenawáhsä)

OPENNESS
(ganhodǫgwę́hsra') (kanhotonkwénhshera') (ganigohí:yok)

TRUSTWORTHINESS
(oihwadógęhsra') (tekaniahesénhtshera') (hoyada:dę:ni)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alfred Keye
Cultural Advisor

Audrey Powless-Bomberry
Six Nations Council Representative

Bonnie Freeman
Vice Chair

Carol Jacobs
GRPSEO Alternate

D. Kevin Martin
Board Chair

Kerdo Deer
GRPSEO Representative

Melba Thomas
Community Member

Michelle Davis
Secretary/Treasurer

Suzie Miller
Community Member

MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR

Sgẹ:nǫ Swagwe:gǫh!

First, we express our gratitude to all who made it possible for SNP to continue to function through the COVID-19 pandemic. A special acknowledgement goes out to the dedicated SNP Board members, staff, instructors and learners for bringing their resilience to meet the many challenges. Sadly, we also acknowledge the loss of treasured community members throughout this challenging time.

Throughout its history, SNP has weathered many storms and celebrated many historic milestones. SNPs integrity is maintained by remaining community driven, focused on our learners and guided by our organizational values. In doing so, we honour our history, knowledge and the resilience of our people while remaining qualitatively differentiated from other post-secondary, trades, and training institutes in this country.

The COVID 19 pandemic impacted SNP operations in many ways including the necessity of "pivoting" to online learning and remote work. The pandemic also impacted the broader economy and precipitated a transformation in post-secondary education with a focus on virtual learning, trades and skills development, micro-credentials and 'upskilling' in the post-pandemic economy.

SNP is honoured to be of service to the Six Nations community and will continue to provide programs and services to meet learner needs while preserving, applying and creating knowledge specific to Ogwehoweh languages, culture and world view. SNP will continue to respectfully interact with and inform other knowledge systems. In these ways, SNP will contribute to the restoration of respectful and interdependent relationships needed to sustain peace and life.

Finally, we congratulate our learners for their continued success on their learning journeys and wish them well as they go forward to make their contributions to a better society for the benefit of all who share this land.

We extend sincere nya:wẹh to all who continue to support the success of our learners.

Dá:netoh

Six Nations Polytechnic
President & Board Chair

YEAR AT-A-GLANCE

The following are a few accomplishment highlights for this unprecedented year:

- Successful program completion across a range of programs: Bachelor of Arts in Ogwehoweh Languages (BAOL) Cayuga and Mohawk, University Consortium Year 1 Program, Personal Support Worker, Early Childhood Education, Social Service Worker, Pre-apprenticeships: Machinist, Cook, Welding.
- The first cohort of SNP STEAM Academy graduates completed their secondary school diplomas.
- A Learning Management System has been implemented across all academic units.
- An online collaboration platform has been implemented across units which enables virtual face-to-face working teams, as well as a diversity of staff and learner engagement opportunities during required remote work, teaching and learning.

- An enterprise resource planning (ERP) software is being implemented to make it possible for SNP to integrate the management of our main business processes with an efficient, real-time, learner-centred Student Information System (SIS).
- The purchase of the Brantford Campus will ensure space for program expansion.
- Continued World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC) participation i.e., SNP Chair Kevin Martin serves on the Executive Board and SNP President Rebecca Jamison serves on the Board of Accreditation.
- Continued Indigenous Institute Consortium participation. SNP's President serves as the IIC Governance Circle Chair.
- Continued strategically productive engagement with local, regional, provincial, and federal governments and organizations as well as the private and not for profit sectors.

ACADEMIC PLANNING

Academic Overview - Stability Amidst Change

Throughout 2020-2021, SNP focused on supporting the health and wellness of the SNP staff and learning community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic while delivering a quality educational experience for our students. Like other institutions across Turtle Island, a shift to remote and/or hybrid work and learning environments made up a significant portion of that response. This shift provided opportunities for students and instructors in their learning environments, including those with an emphasis on wellbeing, virtual learning, and infrastructure. SNP's academic areas also advanced work on programming in the University, College, Trades and Lifelong Learning units, projecting up to five years of future program development and delivery.

Despite the challenges of the past year, enrolment in SNP programs remained consistent. Some programs were waitlisted, and a record number of applicants applied for the intensive Personal Support Worker program, offered in partnership with Mohawk College.

Towards the end of the academic year, our focus returned to capacity-building projects in the areas of quality assurance, academic planning, and policy development. SNP has reflected on this past year, future directions, and community needs. We see clearly, our role as a key supporter to the continuation of Indigenous knowledges and languages, community health and wellbeing, and environmental sustainability remains vital.

Remember Physical Distancing
Kwató:kenk na'tetewateréhak
Gado:gę: nyo:we' na'dedwadra'k

2 M (6 Feet)

Please stay 2 metres (6 feet) away from one another

SIX NATIONS
POLYTECHNIC

SNP STEAM Academy

In just four short years, SNP STEAM Academy has grown from a single grade nine class with 32 students to offering a full range of high school credits and an anticipated enrolment of 172 students in September 2021. STEAM Academy's first grade 12 graduates have worked diligently to earn their OSSD. Eighteen students will mark this momentous occasion as they take to the stage in October at the inaugural graduation ceremony.

SNP STEAM Academy focuses on the delivery of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics blended with the goal of increasing Indigenous knowledge, culture, and traditional languages within the learning program.

This past year has brought many unique challenges, and it has also highlighted the dedication of SNP STEAM Academy educators, the tenacity of our students, and the ongoing support of parents. COVID-19 may have changed the way in which lessons were taught as it brought us into an online learning environment, however most students successfully completed courses in their academic pathway. Students were given technology devices, tools, resources, supports and opportunities they needed to achieve success.

The well-being of every SNP STEAM Academy student is fostered through culturally authentic learning experiences. This past year, students dealt with issues such as environmental sustainability, water protection, changing technologies, leadership, and building healthy relationships.

P-TECH (Pathways in Technology, Early College High School)

The P-TECH program is offered at SNP STEAM Academy and is an integral part of our overall programming. Through this program students begin earning college level credits in grade 10 culminating in a 5 to 6-year program in which they earn both their high school diploma as well as a 2-year Software Engineering Technician diploma. The P-TECH program continues to progress well with students now taking part in four distinct levels of courses, including the fifth year of study at Mohawk College. This year, students enjoyed participating in a range of related activities such as mentorship opportunities, opportunities to experiment with emerging technologies, and work alongside experts from IBM as well as other leading local and global businesses.

During the 2020-2021 school year, SNP STEAM Academy's champion Robotics Club, and extra-curricular activities were on hold due to the implications of COVID-19. With the new school year on the horizon, we look forward to a busy year of robotics accomplishments, a creative music program, and an expanded extra-curricular program at SNP STEAM Academy.

Student Success

The 2020-2021 year brought on many new challenges and opportunities for Six Nations Polytechnic students. The Registrar's Office and Student Affairs team held virtual campus activities that focused on time management, health & wellness, and culture. Although we were not able to celebrate student successes in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SNP held a virtual Convocation for our Bachelor of Arts in Ogwehoweh Language graduates. SNP crafted a personalized Convocation website for each student to visit, where they read messages and watched videos from community members, congratulating them on their successes. We are so proud of each student's achievements!

Cayuga Language Program

Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the SNP Cayuga Language Program was established to support a group of learners reach advanced levels of speaking in the Cayuga language over a period of three years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both the second and third year of the project took place online creating a greater need for self-study, video conferencing and other online resources to support learners. The resources created to support these last two years of the program include an updated curriculum, lesson plans, app integration, stories and video lessons on Gayogoho:nǫ grammar. Most participants entered the final year of the program at an Intermediate mid or high level, and one entered the final year at the Advanced level. In 2020, most of the program participants also supported the BAOL as either a Teaching Assistant or an Instructor. We would like to thank everyone who has participated in this project and look forward to unpacking the many lessons that we have learned to be included in future language programming development at SNP.

SIX NATIONS ACHIEVEMENT CENTRE

The **Six Nations Achievement Centre** is a community-based Literacy and Basic Skills program that has provided service to the community of Six Nations since March 5, 1990. Funding for the program is provided by the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD).

Six Nations Achievement Centre Statistics

Program	Learners
Introduction to the GED	5
Building Computer Confidence	1
Safe Food Handling	2
Pre-Apprenticeship – Cooks	4
Pre-Apprenticeship – Welders	5
Pre-Apprenticeship – Machinists	5
TOTAL	**22**

The COVID 19 pandemic impacted our delivery of LBS services in the 2020/2021 fiscal year. As the world slowed down so did demand for LBS in our Community. There was a decreased demand for our services since we were limited to remote learning.

We anticipated, as did the Ministry, a decline in referrals from some of our key partners like Ontario Works and Employment Services, as their experience echoed our own. The inability to deliver our LBS services face-to-face, impacted our delivery of overall services and thereby our target number outcomes.

Additional Qualification Courses

Designed by teachers for teachers along with community members in the field of education, Additional Qualification Courses (AQs) are a form of ongoing learning with the goal of improving outcomes for students in Ontario. SNP ensures that our courses meet the highest standards of pedagogical inquiry, enrichment, and engagement. In addition, our AQ courses and Principal Qualifications Program (PQP) course offer a unique Indigenous perspective.

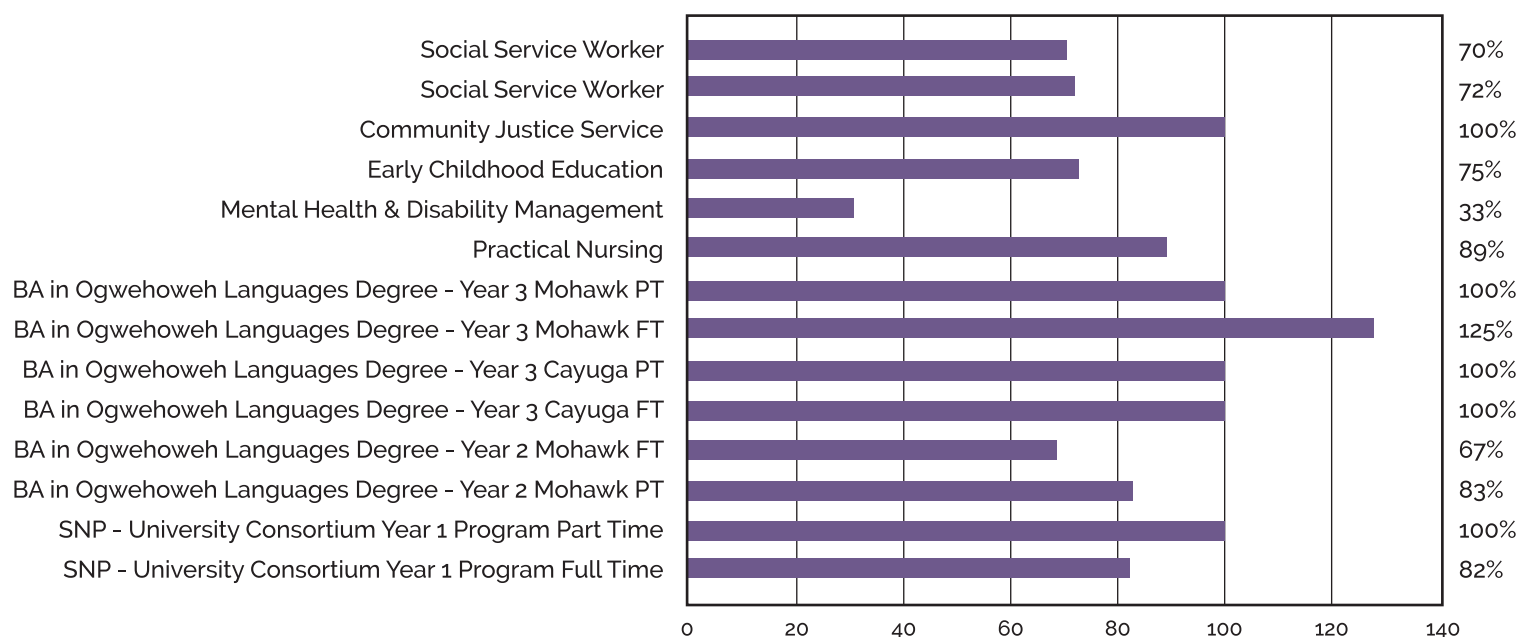| Start Date	Course	Applications	Completed
Winter 2021	Special Education Courses Part 1	10	3
June 2021	Environmental Education	20	11

POST SECONDARY ENROLMENT: 2020-2021

Post Secondary Programs	Partnership	Enrolment by Sept 30, 2020	Completed by June 30, 2021	Retention Rate
SNP - University Consortium Year 1 Program Full Time	McMaster and Consortium	11	9	82%
SNP University Consortium Year 1 Program Part Time	McMaster and Consortium	1	1	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 2 Cayuga FT	SNP	6	5	83%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 2 Mohawk FT	SNP	3	2	67%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 2 Mohawk PT	SNP	1	1	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Cayuga FT	SNP	7	7	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Cayuga PT	SNP	2	3	150%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Mohawk FT	SNP	4	5	125%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Mohawk PT	SNP	1	1	100%
Community Justice Service (start date Sept 2020)	Mohawk College	7	7	100%
Early Childhood Education (start date Sept 2019)	Niagara College	4	3	75%
Mental Health & Disability Management	Mohawk College	3	1	33%
Indigenous Wellness & Addiction Program (start date Jan 2020)	Canadore College	6	TBD	TBD
Personal Support Worker	Mohawk College	12	9	75%
Personal Support Worker - Intensive	Mohawk College	17	TBD	TBD
Social Service Worker (start date Sept 2019)	Mohawk College	18	13	72%
Social Service Worker (start date Sept 2020)	Mohawk College	27	19	70%
Practical Nursing (start date Sept 2020)	Mohawk College	38	34	89%
Total Enrollment for Post Secondary Programs		167	143	

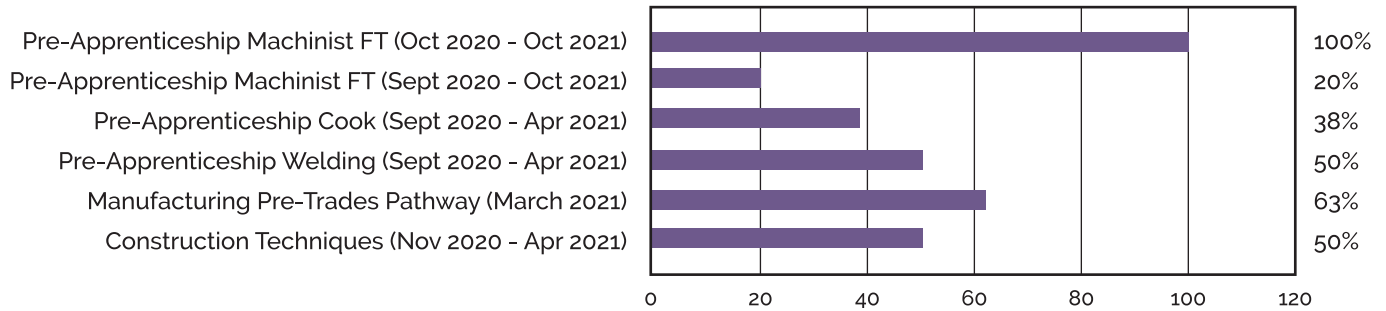# 2020-2021 POST SECONDARY PROGRAM
Year of Study Completion Rate

Program	Rate
Social Service Worker	70%
Social Service Worker	72%
Community Justice Service	100%
Early Childhood Education	75%
Mental Health & Disability Management	33%
Practical Nursing	89%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 3 Mohawk PT	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 3 Mohawk FT	125%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 3 Cayuga PT	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 3 Cayuga FT	100%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 2 Mohawk FT	67%
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree - Year 2 Mohawk PT	83%
SNP - University Consortium Year 1 Program Part Time	100%
SNP - University Consortium Year 1 Program Full Time	82%

Post Secondary Programs	Program	Yr/Session	Completion	Enrolment
SNP - University Consortium Year 1 Program Full Time	1	1	82%	11
SNP University Consortium Year 1 Program Part Time	1	1	100%	1
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 2 Cayuga FT	3	2	83%	6
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 2 Mohawk FT	3	2	67%	3
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Cayuga FT	3	3	100%	7
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Cayuga PT	3	3	100%	2
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Mohawk FT	3	3	125%	4
BA in Ogwehoweh Languages Degree Year 3 Mohawk PT	3	3	100%	1
Practical Nursing	1	1	89%	38
Personal Support Worker	1	1	75%	12
Personal Support Worker - Intensive	1	1	100%	17
Mental Health & Disability Management			33%	3
Early Childhood Education	2	2	75%	4
Community Justice Service	2	1	100%	7
Indigenous Wellness & Addictions Program	2	1	100%	6
Social Service Worker	2	2	72%	18
Social Service Worker	2	1	70%	27
				167

2020-2021 TRADES PROGRAM
Year of Study Completion Rate

Pre-Apprenticeship Machinist FT (Oct 2020 - Oct 2021) — 100%
Pre-Apprenticeship Machinist FT (Sept 2020 - Oct 2021) — 20%
Pre-Apprenticeship Cook (Sept 2020 - Apr 2021) — 38%
Pre-Apprenticeship Welding (Sept 2020 - Apr 2021) — 50%
Manufacturing Pre-Trades Pathway (March 2021) — 63%
Construction Techniques (Nov 2020 - Apr 2021) — 50%

Trades Programs	Partnership	Enrolment by Sept 2020	Completed by Oct 2021	Retention Rate
Construction Techniques (Nov 2020 - April 2021)	Mohawk	8	4	50%
Manufacturing Pre-Trades Pathway (March 2021 - May 2021)	Mohawk	8	5	63%
Pre-Apprenticeship Welding (Sept 2020 - April 2021)		12	6	50%
Pre-Apprenticeship Cook (Sept 2020-April 2021)		8	3	38%
Pre-Apprenticeship Machinist FT (Sept 20 - Oct 2021)		5	1	20%
Pre-Apprenticeship Machinist FT (Oct 2020 - Oct 2021)		3	3	100%

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Acquisition of the Brantford Campus

With four years remaining on our long-term lease, SNP was able to acquire the entirety of our Brantford campus located at 411 Elgin Street. The purchase includes a single-story facility (10,219m2), a two-story facility (5,109m2) which includes a double gymnasium, and ample parking on twenty-four acres. This provides SNP with a foundation to meet the growing demand for higher education, skilled trades, and apprenticeship programming.

Institutional Advancement

With a history of precarious funding, SNP created an Institutional Advancement function in 2013 to respond to demand for programming, student needs, and capacity building. We are happy to report that SNP secured $8.6M in grants for the 2020-2021 fiscal. SNP remains committed to: supporting Ogwehoweh language revitalization; participation in Ontario's Indigenous post-secondary education sector; Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action; and post-secondary education. In a pandemic, this includes development and delivery of micro-credentials to support upskilling and reskilling and fast-tracking programs in critical occupations to boost economic recovery.

PROJECTS

Deyohahá:ge: 10 Year Anniversary

In November of 2020, the Deyohahá:ge: Indigenous Knowledge Centre celebrated its 10-year anniversary by filming a video that shared about Deyohahá:ge:'s history and formation, impacts the work of the Centre has already had, and plans for future growth and development, including for a new building at the Six Nations campus. The video was filmed by Thru the Red Door studio and features segments from past and present Deyohahá:ge: staff, as well as Indigenous Knowledge Guardians, supporters and SNP's CEO/President. The video is available for viewing on SNP's YouTube Channel.

Virtual Learning Strategy

Seven cross-Unit teams are quickly approaching the halfway point of SNP's innovative e-learning "Virtual Learning Strategy" projects – with an eighth project now ramping up. Funded under the province's $50m investment in postsecondary e-learning, these teams are writing unique curriculum; launching new credentials; exploring program delivery innovations and leveraging educational technology and developing best practices in Indigenous teaching and learning online. When they conclude in February 2022, these eight projects will have made unique, meaningful contributions to an emerging, culturally-grounded space for the pursuit of excellence in e-learning, within and beyond Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

Six Nations Homework Support Program

The Homework Support Program has been in supporting our students since 2006, averaging 500 students per year. This year, the operation of Homework Support required the move to on-line learning to continue supporting students. After closing in March 2020, Homework Support began providing on-line support from November 2020 until June 2021. Six Nations Polytechnic created on-line access through MS Teams for students in grades 5-12, college and university. Students were invited to join our Team of teachers who are qualified to teach in elementary and secondary. This year, we also invited Four secondary graduates to join the team in the areas of Math, Science and Literacy. Due to the impact of Covid-19, daily learning on-line, issues with access to data and mental health and wellness, the number of students accessing on-line support drastically reduced:

January - December 2020				
Month	**Elementary**	**Secondary**	**Post-Secondary**	**Total**
January 2020	23	41	1	67
February 2020	20	6	4	30
March 12 2020	2	13	0	15
Mar 13 - November 15 2020	Closed			
November 2020	0	14	0	14
December 2020	4	11	1	16
Totals	**49**	**85**	**6**	**142**
January - June 2021				
January 2021	2	11	0	13
February 2021	2	22	0	24
March 2021	0	12	8	20
April 2021	0	27	1	28
May 2021	0	31	1	32
June 2021	0	20	0	20
Totals	**4**	**123**	**10**	**137**

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES
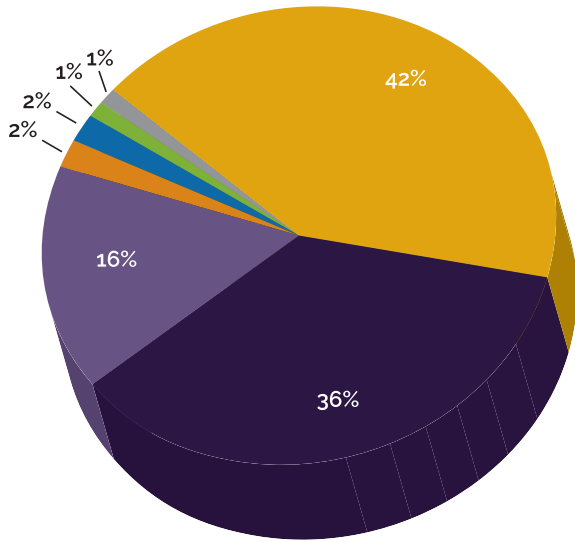
Revenue 2020-2021

- ● Other Funding
- ● MTCU
- ● PSPP
- ● OTF
- ● Tuition
- ● Other Income
- ● Literacy

Revenue	
MTCU	4,770,063
Literacy	128,329
PSPP	1,851,081
OTF	210,914
Tuition	212,219
Other Funding	4,037,125
Other Income	146,147
	11,355,878
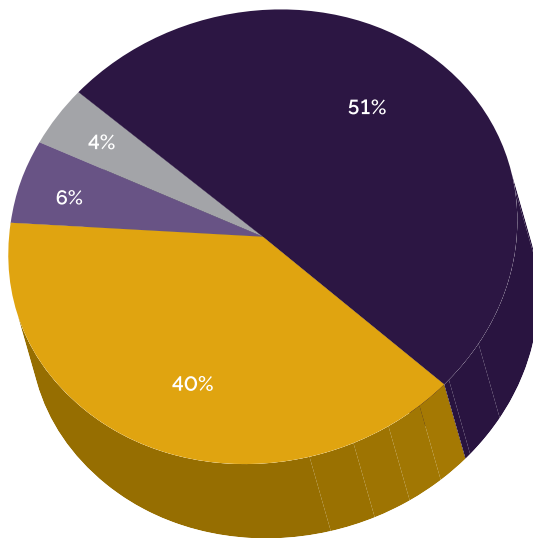
Expenditures 2020-2021

- ● Program Costs
- ● Staffing
- ● Other Expense
- ● General Admin

Expenditures	
Staffing	4,670,647
Program Costs	5,931,356
General Admin	457,533
Other Expense	649,301
	11,708,837

Staffing	
Salaries & Benefits	4,670,647
	4,670,647

General Admin	
Student Services	29,670
General Admin	427,863
	457,533

Program Costs	
Facility & Supplies	2,563,351
Professional Development	12,451
Awards & Bursaries	17,000
Tuition & Program Fees	507,555
Instruction Fees	2,563,351
Program Development	240,709
Education Materials	26,689
Cultural Supports	250
	5,931,356

Six Nations Polytechnic Inc.

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

Year ended March 31, 2021

		2021		2020
Revenue				
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU)	$	4,770,063	$	4,408,679
MTCU - Literacy and Basic Skills		128,329		128,399
Post-Secondary Partnership Program		1,851,081		1,156,713
Ontario Trillium Foundation		210,914		424,000
Tuition		212,219		413,063
Other Funding		4,037,125		5,821,164
Other Income		146,147		421,548
		11,355,878		12,773,566
Expenses				
Salaries and benefits	$	4,670,647	$	4,695,072
Facility and supplies		2,563,351		2,365,633
Instruction fees		2,666,036		2,365,633
General and administrative		427,863		(182,690)
Tuition and program fees		507,555		1,023,416
Student services		29,670		87,956
Education materials		26,689		92,588
Professional development		12,451		42,589
Cultural support		250		15,482
Awards and bursaries		17,000		20,000
Program development		240,709		356,801
		11,162,221		11,145,629
Excess of revenue over expenses		193,657		1,627,937
Other expenses (income):				
Amortization of capital assets		920,344		872,079
Amortization of deferred capital contributions		(373,728)		(354,452)
		546,616		517,627
(Deficiency) Excess of revenue over expenses	$	(352,959)	$	1,110,310

Six Nations Polytechnic Inc.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended March 31, 2020

		2021		2020
Assets				
Current Assets				
Cash	$	4,940,893	$	2,225,724
Investments and marketable securities		150,000		150,000
Accounts receivable		2,276,705		1,977,995
Inventories		17,718		17,718
Prepaid Expenses		184,534		32,521
		7,569,850		4,403,958
Long term deposit		263,523		91,667
Capital assets		6,739,914		7,303,740
Artwork collection		1,566,990		1,566,990
		16,140,227		13,366,355
Liabilities				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$	694,520	$	263,558
Deferred revenue		6,014,134		3,310,715
		6,708,654		3,574,273
Deferred capital contributions		4,444,248		4,451,748
		11,152,902		8,026,021
Commitments and contingencies				
Net assets				
Invested in capital assets		2,344,166		2,890,782
Unrestricted		2,643,209		2,449,552
		4,987,375		5,340,334
		16,140,277		13,366,355

SIX NATIONS POLYTECHNIC

MOHAWK

Meet Alexis, a 2nd-year student in the Social Service Program!

Tell us a bit about yourself.
My name is Alexis. I am Mohawk nation, turtle clan and come from Six Nations. I've always had an interest in giving back to my community and setting goals for myself was key in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Why did you choose this program?
My motivation for this was my father because I watched him pursue a career in both paramedicine and firefighting [...] I always knew the physical aspect of the job was hard, but it was not until later on I found out about the mental health aspect. I turned to the Social Service worker program so I could eventually give back to the first responders in my community.

What made you choose to study at SNP?
I knew they were offering the incorporation of cultural sensitivity mixed in with social service worker practices. Being an Ogweho:weh who lives on Six Nations I wanted to make sure I have the skills to help give back to my community and help other Ogweho:weh people with making sure I can incorporate my culture and traditions into my practices.

How will the skills and knowledge you have gained from this program be beneficial to your community?
I am not limited to just applying social service worker skills, I can also apply factors of my culture into a client who's in need. Whether that means using cultural sensitivity towards clients or using cultural practices mixed in with social service practice as well.

SIX NATIONS POLYTECHNIC

MOHAWK

Meet Autumn, a 2nd-year student in the Social Service Program!

Tell us a bit about yourself. For example, your home community, family, interests, and goals.
My name is Autumn, and I am from the Niagara Region.

What made you choose to study at SNP?
I thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to not only take the SSW program but learn about Indigenous culture.

What are some of the new things have you learned in the program?
In my two years here at SNP in the SSW program, I have learned and grown so much as a person. I have learned about the importance of advocating and how to be an ally, how to professionally counsel someone who is going through trauma, I have learned about the history of Indigenous culture and how it impacts people to this day. I feel very thankful and blessed to be invited so warmly into the program as a non-Indigenous person to learn about the history, values and beliefs.

We are in the process of recruiting future students for the program; please provide us with two highlights based on your student experience that may attract others to apply.
Smaller class sizes allowed me to be more connected with my classmates and professors. I have gained great friendships and supports because I wasn't just a number in a big classroom, I was Autumn.